

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:398
ANSWERED ON:19.02.2009
STRENGTHENING OF RPF/RPSF
Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the measures taken or proposed to be taken to strengthen the Railway Protection Force (RPF) in view of the terrorist attack at Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminal;
- (b) whether there are any plans to increase the number of RPF battalions;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Railways propose to set up special academies in the country to train RPF and Railway Protection Special Force on modern security system; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken in this regard;

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS(DR. R. VELU)

(a): Various measures have been taken to strengthen the Railway Protection Force. Important details are as under:-

(i) An Integrated Security System is being installed at all Railway Stations of four Metro cities viz Chennai, Delhi, Kolkata and Mumbai and 140 other vulnerable/sensitive stations of Indian Railways. This system will comprise of the following broad areas:-

1. Internet protocol based CCTV System with video analytics.
2. Access control.
3. Personal and baggage screening system.
4. Explosive detection and disposal system.

Guidelines & technical specifications of equipment have been circulated to the General Managers of Indian Railways for implementing the project.

(ii) On the recommendations of the Norms Committee, Rs. 60.76 crore has been sanctioned for procurement of security equipment to strengthen the Railway Protection Force (RPF). The Force is also being provided with modern automatic weapons like AK-47 Rifles, INSAS 5.56 Rifles, Pistol Auto 9mm A1 etc. Rs. 14.26 crore has been allocated for procurement of vehicles for RPF to improve mobility of the Force.

(iii) Composite Security plan has been submitted by a Committee comprising of officers from Railways, RPF, IB, CISF, Delhi Police and NSG. This plan has been approved in principle. It is being implemented.

(b) & (c): Yes, Sir. Proposal has come up for creation of 3 more battalions of RPSF (Total 2217 posts in various Grades) against new assets without matching surrender. D&G (Direction & General) provision has been introduced in order to create workcharged posts for safe guarding Railway property and thwarting miscreant activities at remote project sites. Senior Administrative Grade level posts have already been created

(d) & (e): No, Sir. Jagjivan Ram Railway Protection Force Academy, Lucknow has been granted Central Training Institute status. Training modules have been standardized and upgraded for Zonal training Centres of Railway Protection Force. Training for trainers programme has been organized in Bomb Detection & Disposal and Disaster Management. Railway Protection Force personnel trained in these programmes will impart training to other Railway Protection Force personnel. Commando training is being organized at a large scale by getting slots in reputed training centres of other Para Military Forces.

It has been decided to augment infrastructural facilities and equipment in the existing training centres of RPF. In phase-1, following training centres have been selected for upgradation within a time frame of 2 years:

1. Kharagpur (South Eastern Railway)
2. Kimber Garden (Southern Railway)
3. Bandikui (North Western Railway)
4. Rajahi Camp, Goarakhpur (North Eastern Railway)
5. Mokama, (East Central Railway)